

## Message Text

SECRET

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73

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W  
----- 032753

O 152059Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7110

INFO USINT DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 2692

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (PRINCE FAHD) SA, PFOR

SUBJECT: MINISTER OF STATE SAQQAF'S VIEWS ON FAHD'S

TRIP TO U.S.

REF: JIDDA 2591

1. SAYYID OMAR SAQQAF, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THIS EVENING (MAY 15) THAT KING FAISAL WAS DISPLEASED WITH THE TURN OF EVENTS ON THE SYRIAN FRONT; THAT HE HAD THOUGHT PRINCE FAHD'S TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES SHOULD TAKE PLACE ONLY AFTER THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT ON THE SYRIAN FRONT; BUT THAT HE PROBABLY WOULD NOT RPT NOT INTERVENE NOW TO CANCEL IT. PLANS HAD ALREADY GONE TOO FAR.

2. FAHD, HE SAID, HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY THE KING NOT TO CONCLUDE ANY AGREEMENTS OR MAKE ANY PROMISES IN WASHINGTON. HE SHOULD LISTEN, DISCUSS WHAT THE AMERICANS HAD TO SAY AND THEN BRING BACK THE PROPOSALS TO RIYADH FOR FURTHER STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION, IF ANY.

3. TWO SAUDI COMMITTEES, HE SAID, HAD BEEN FORMED TO EXAMINE ANY PROPOSALS OR IDEAS WHICH CAME OUT OF THE WASHINGTON MEETINGS: THE FIRST, POLITICAL/SECURITY/DEFENSE, WOULD BE COMPOSED OF HIMSELF AND PRINCE SULTAN, THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE. THE SECOND, ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGICAL,

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WOULD BE COMPOSED OF HISHAM NAZER, MINISTER OF STATE FOR

PLANNING, AHMAD ZAKI YAMANI, THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, AND MUHAMMAD ABA AL-KHAIL, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE.

4. HE SAID HE HOPED WASHINGTON UNDERSTOOD THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF ANYTHING THAT IS WORKED OUT WILL DEPEND ON REACHING A JUST PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE HAD TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THIS BEFORE, HE SAID, AS HIS OWN OPINION. NOW HE COULD TELL US THAT THIS WAS ALSO THE VIEW OF THE KING AND HIS CABINET.

5. COMMENT: THE KING VERY LIKELY WOULD LIKE TO STOP THE FAHD TRIP. BOTH SAQQAF AND KAMAL ADHAM, THE KING'S BROTHER-IN-LAW AND INTELLIGENCE ADVISOR, HAVE TOLD US THAT IF THERE WERE NO DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT ON THE SYRIAN FRONT, FAHD WOULD NOT RPT NOT GO TO THE UNITED STATES. BUT FAHD CLEARLY WANTS TO GO; AND IF HE DOES GO HE WILL HAVE DEMONSTRATED A SUBSTANTIAL RELATIVE INCREASE IN HIS POWER IN THE KINGDOM. HE WAS TO HAVE GONE TO WASHINGTON IN THE SPRING OF 1973 BUT THE KING CANCELLED HIS TRIP AT THE LAST MINUTE. IT IS UNLIEKLY, HOWEVER, THAT THE KING THIS TIME ACTUALLY HAS GIVEN A DIRECT ORDER TO FAHD NOT TO GO--FAHD WOULD NOT DISOBEY--AND IF THE KING HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE TIME FOR A TRIP TO THE U.S. IS NOT OPPORTUNE, FAHD HAS SHOWN NO SIGN OF YIELDING (AS A YEAR AGO HE WOULD HAVE).  
AKINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINISTER OF STATE SAQQAF'S VIEWS ON FAHD'S TRIP TO U.S.  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PFOR, SA, SY, IS, (FAUD, PRINCE)  
**To:** STATE  
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